

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 KHARTO 02945 291335Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 DHA-05 CU-04 IO-13 CIAE-00
DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ISO-00 /101 W
-----098351 291353Z /46

R 291158Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5253
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY SANA
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

C O N F I D E N T I A L KHARTOUM 2945

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINS, PINT, SU
SUBJECT: FIRST VICE PRESIDENT ABUL GASIM IBRAHIM ENCOURAGES
SADIQ AL-MAHDI'S RETURN

REF: KHARTOUM 2684

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

1. FIRST VICE PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE SSU,
ABUL GASIM IBRAHIM, INVITED OPPOSITION LEADER SADIQ AL-MAHDI
TO RETURN TO THE SUDAN IN A WIDELY PUBLICIZED SPEECH AT
KHARTOUM UNIVERSITY ON AUG. 28. ABUL GASSIM IDENTIFIED ALL
SUDANESE AS INHERITORS OF THE STRUGGLE OF SADIQ'S GRANDFATHER.
HE POINTED OUT THAT SADIQ IS HONORED AND RESPECTED IN THE
SUDAN AND THAT QUOTE SUDANESE DO NOT LIKE THE GRANDSON OF
AL-IMAM AL-MAHDI TO CONTINUE TO STAY OUTSIDE THE COUNTRY.
UNQUOTE

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BEGIN CONFIDENTIAL

2. WE HAVE HEARD CONSISTENT RUMORS FOR LAST SEVERAL WEEKS
THAT NATIONAL FRONT LEADERS OBJECTED TO ABUL GASIM'S RECENT
APPOINTMENT AS FIRST VICE PRESIDENT AND WERE CONCERNED
ABOUT HIS POLITICAL STATEMENTS. ABUL GASIM HAS TAKEN A VERY
HARD LINE ON ISSUES RELATING TO NATIONAL RECONCILIATION. HE

HAS STRESSED THAT THERE WOULD BE NO RETURN TO THE POLITICS OF THE PAST, PARTICULARLY TO A MULTI-PARTY STRUCTURE. ABUL GASIM HIMSELF IS A SYMBOL OF PARTICULAR IMPORTANCE TO SADIQ AL-MAHDI AND HIS FOLLOWERS BECAUSE HE LED THE ATTACK ON ANSAR SUPPORTERS AT ABBA ISLAND IN 1970. IT MAY BE THAT SADIQ HAS RECENTLY CONDITIONED HIS RETURN UPON A SOFTER LINE FROM ABUL GASIM. THE ABRUPT CHANGE IN ABUL GASIM'S DIRECTION WILL FUEL SUCH SPECULATIONS.
BERGUS

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 29-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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TAGS: PINS, PINT, SU, (SADIZ AL-MAHDI), (IBRAHIM, ABUL GASIM)
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